

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 197301 TOSEC 200237

62

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197301 TOSEC 200237

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: REPORT FROM VAN DER STOEL ON THE SISMIC CRISIS

REF; THE HAGUE 4268

1. DUTCH CHARGE TYDEMAN CALLED ON EUR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE AUGUST 9 TO CONVEY FURTHER REPORT FROM FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL ON HIS DISCUSSIONS IN ATHENS. TEXT OF REPORT FOLLOWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: MR. VAN DER STOEL WAS RECEIVED ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 9 BY PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS IN THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS. CARAMANLIS STATED THE FOLLOWING WITH REGARD TO THE GREEK-TURKISH CONFLICT. THE EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES OF THE SISMIC ABOVE THE PART OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WHICH THE GREEKS CONSIDER TO BE GREEK HAVE CONTINUED DURING THE WEEKEND. A GREEK NOTE OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 197301 TOSEC 200237

PROTEST DELIVERED ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, HAS BEEN REPLIED

TO BY THE TURKS IN AN ENTIRELY NEGATIVE WAY. CARAMANLIS, POINTING OUT THAT ANDREAS PAPANDREAU HAD ALREADY DEMANDED THAT THE GREEK ARMED FORCES SHOULD DRIVE OFF OR SINK THE SISMIC, STATED TO MR. VAN DER STOEL THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING COURSE:

(1) ON MONDAY MORNING AUGUST 9 ANOTHER GREEK NOTE OF PROTEST WILL BE DELIVERED IN ANKARA. IN THIS NOTE THERE WILL BE ANOTHER REQUEST THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SISMIC IN THE CONTESTED WATERS BE HALTED AND THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BE RESUMED.

(2) IF TURKEY WILL AGAIN RESPOND NEGATIVELY TO THIS NEW NOTE IN THE COURSE OF MONDAY, GREECE WILL LODGE AN APPEAL WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY.

(3) IN THE GREEK THINKING, IF THE CASE WOULD BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE SECURITY COUNCIL, A RESOLUTION SHOULD BE ADOPTED OF THE FOLLOWING SENSE:

(A) THE SISMIC ACTIVITIES ABOVE THE CONTESTED PARTS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF HAVE TO BE CEASED IMMEDIATELY.

(B) THE PARTIES HAVE TO BE ADVISED TO HAVE THEIR DISPUTE BROUGHT BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE OR TO RESUME DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

CARAMANLIS STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS SITUATION WHICH WOULD DEVELOP IF SUCH A RESOLUTION DID NOT COME ABOUT OR IF SUCH A RESOLUTION WOULD BE IGNORED BY TURKEY.

CARAMANLIS THEN ASKED MR. VAN DER STOEL TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE NINE ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS OF THE SITUATION AND ABOUT GREEK INTENTIONS.

HE EXPECTED THE ALLIES AND FRIENDS OF GREECE TO DO THEIR SHARE IN URGING TURKEY TO USE RESTRAINT. IN HIS REPLY MR. VAN DER STOEL HAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS RESISTED DOMESTIC

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 197301 TOSEC 200237

PRESSURE TO TAKE ACTION BY FORCE. MR. VAN DER STOEL HAS PROMISED THAT HE WOULD INFORM THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY IMMEDIATELY AS HE ALREADY HAD DONE WITH REGARD TO THE CONTENTS OF THEIR EARLIER DISCUSSION ON FRIDAY EVENING. END TEXT.

3. CHARGE STATED THAT VAN DER STOEL HAD REQUESTED THAT THIS REPORT BE BROUGHT IMMEDIATELY TO THE SECRETARY'S

ATTENTION. HE ASKED THAT THE SECRETARY ALSO BE INFORMED
OF VAN DER STOEL'S HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD ALSO
BRING HIS INFLUENCE TO BEAR IN ANKARA TO ACHIEVE RESTRAINT
ON THE PART OF THE TURKS. HABIB

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